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AMERICAN DOUGHBOY WORLD'S BEST FIGHTER

New York, Sept. 8.—The American doughboy is the finest soldier in the world and it did not take the Germans long to find it out," declared Gen. Pershing in an interview granted newspaper men today at the Waldorf Astoria.

"We boasted a little, probably, of the peculiar qualities of the American fighting man, but his aggressiveness, initiative and devotion as a member of the American Expeditionary Forces gives us every right to boast and to be proud of him," the commander said. "I suppose it is because of the way the American boy is raised, due to the fact that he is encouraged to develop his initiative and that he feels at any crisis of his life that he is master of his own destiny."

The interview, brought about in the hope that the general might be willing to express his views upon such subjects as the league of nations, the situation in Europe and in Mexico, what he intended doing when he entered civil life, when he expected to retire from the army and similar questions, was preceded by a general hand shaking all around and a remark by Gen. Pershing that all such topics were "taboo."

"I am still on duty," he said. "It is a pleasant duty, but very strenuous." The general had just finished luncheon after a little rest to refresh himself after the arduous hours of the morning and he said that while he was glad to meet all the newspaper men he could only answer such questions as properly came within the range of his profession.

The question was asked: "General, what do you consider the crowning achievement of your service abroad?" to which he replied:

"Cutting the German lines at Sedan on November 6."

"Was that a more difficult operation than cutting the Hindenburg line?" he was asked.

"Cutting the Hindenburg line was a start toward cutting the line at Sedan. It was hard to tell what might have become of it under different circumstances. It followed the final effort of the Germans to force their way through but their armies were beaten before they started."

"General will you say a few words about Marshal Foch?"

"Marshal Foch," he replied appreciatively, "is a very great strategist."

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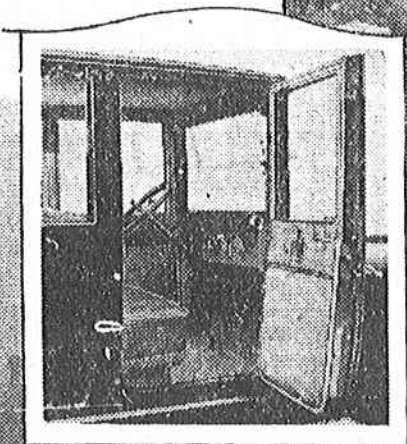
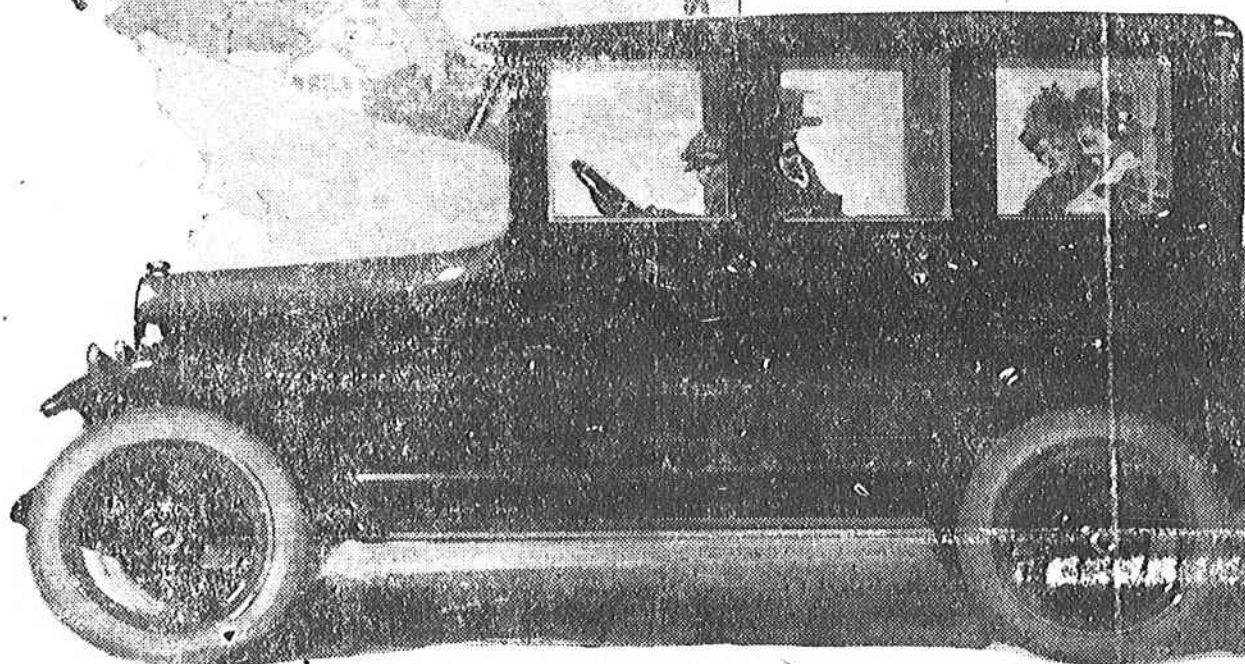
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CARRANZA'S PLAN TO AVOID TROUBLE

Americans Must Not Hold His Government Responsible.

MUST SUBSCRIBE TO OATH

If Americans Refuse to Sign Mexicans Refuse to Vise Their Passports.

Washington, Sept. 6.—Apparently convinced that the United States is in earnest in demanding proper treatment of Americans in Mexico, the Carranza government has adopted a novel expedient in an attempt to relieve itself of responsibility.

Americans going to the Tampico region hereafter will be compelled to sign a formal release of the Mexican government's responsibility for what may happen to them. If they refuse Mexican officials will refuse to vise their passports.

The condition raises a peculiar situation, for under international law a government may refuse travel permission to foreigners into a region where it may not be prepared to guarantee their safety.

Americans going to the Tampico oil region are being asked to make oath to such an affidavit as follows:

"The undersigned, under oath, deposes and says that he has been warned that the Tampico oil region is a dangerous district on account of the activities of bandits operating in said region; that dependent, by reason of his business as employee, is on his way to that region and travels at his own

risk. That in case some accident might happen to him, hereby he formally renounces the right that he or his heirs might have to present a claim to the Mexican government either directly, or through any other channel."

This affidavit is not only required of workmen who are American citizens, but also of American citizens in the United States holding passports from the State Department authorizing them to visit the Tampico region.

Robberies in Tampico.

Details of three robberies in a week in the Tampico region have been received at the office of the oil companies. The robbers secured \$59,060 Mexican gold, American companies being the victims and the robberies all took place in the territory where no one but the Carranza troops are permitted to carry arms.

H. M. Kimball, cashier of the Penn-Mexican camp, was forced by bandits to open the safe from which \$25,000 was taken, the robbers escaping in a company launch. Twenty-eight men in all took part in the robbery, all armed with rifles and revolvers.

Robbed by Masked Men.

Luis Gutierrez, paymaster of the Agwi Company, while taking a payroll of \$4,060 to the Tepetate camp, was held up by three armed masked men and robbed. Neither Gutierrez, nor his companion, Kenneth DeLacey knew they were to make the trip until ten minutes before they started. The company officials, however, had notified the Mexican authorities at Tampico of the amount of the payroll and

the time of departure and route to be taken.

The robbers demanded the exact amount, according to the report which was not known to the two men carrying it, and it was counted before the robbers would let their victims go.

A Tampico bank made up a \$30,000 payroll of the Transcontinental Oil Company, in an effort to thwart the robbers, and placed it in a box to be sent to the camp at Mata Redonda by launch. The Mexican authorities are said to have delayed the departure of the launch unexpectedly for one night and when it reached the

camp, a box of old iron had been substituted for the original.

STATE BORROWS \$22,800

Columbia, Sept. 8.—The borrowings committee of the State, consisting of the Governor, the State Treasurer and the Comptroller General, have borrowed \$22,800 from local Columbia bank to defray the expenses of the reorganization of the National Guard. This is the amount stipulated by the Adjutant General's office out of the conditional appropriation of \$65,000 made by the last General Assembly. The money is borrowed at a reasonable rate of interest.

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